WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1　1.　A method for selecting a proxy server, said method
2　　　comprising:
3　　　identifying a plurality of proxy servers; and
4　　　automatically determining at least one of the proxy
5　　　　　servers to use when accessing a network.

1　2.　The method as described in claim 1 wherein the
2　　　automatically determining further comprises:
3　　　testing a speed for each of the plurality of proxy
4　　　　　servers; and
5　　　determining a highest speed.

1　3.　The method as described in claim 1 wherein the
2　　　automatically determining further comprises:
3　　　setting a minimum speed limit for a selected proxy
4　　　　　server;
5　　　comparing a speed for the selected proxy server with
6　　　　　the minimum speed limit; and
7　　　testing each of the plurality of servers in response
8　　　　　to the speed for the selected proxy server
9　　　　　falling below the minimum speed limit.

1　4.　The method as described in claim 1 wherein the
2　　　automatically determining further comprises:
3　　　receiving a destination address; and
4　　　comparing the destination address to a plurality of
5　　　　　network addresses, each of the network addresses
6　　　　　corresponding with a proxy server identifier.

1　5.　The method as described in claim 4 further comprising:

returning the proxy server identifier corresponding to
    the network address that matches the received
    destination address.

6. The method as described in claim 4 further comprising:
returning a default proxy server identifier in
    response to the received destination address not
    matching any of the network addresses.

7. The method as described in claim 4 wherein at least
one of the network addresses includes one or more
wildcard characters, the wildcard characters
identifying more than one address corresponding to the
network address.

8. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
modifying a proxy configuration setting using the
    selected proxy server identifier, the proxy
    configuration setting identifying the proxy
    server used by a client computer system.

9. The method as described in claim 1 wherein the
identifying further comprises:
reading a proxy server identifier associated with each
    of the proxy servers.

10. The method as described in claim 1 wherein the
identifying further comprises:
connecting to a second computer system using a
    network; and
receiving a plurality of proxy server identifiers from
    the second computer system.

11. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:

2   determining a fastest proxy server from the plurality

3   of proxy servers;

4   setting a default proxy server address to the address

5   of the fastest proxy server;

6   receiving a destination address from a user;

7   locating the destination address in a proxy table, the

8   proxy table including one or more network

9   addresses and a proxy server identifier

10   corresponding with each network address;

11   selecting the proxy server identifier corresponding

12   with the network address in response to locating

13   the destination address in the proxy table; and

14   selecting the default proxy server address in response

15   to not locating the destination address in the

16   proxy table.

1 12. An information handling system comprising:

2   one or more processors;

3   a memory accessible by the processors;

4   a nonvolatile storage device accessible by the

5   processors;

6   a network interface connecting the information

7   handling system to a computer network; and

8   a proxy selection tool, the proxy selection tool

9   including:

10   means for reading a plurality of proxy server

11   identifiers;

12   means for evaluating at least one of the proxy

13   servers; and

14   means for selecting one of the plurality of proxy

15   server identifiers in response to the

16   evaluating.

13. The information handling system as described in
claim 12 wherein the proxy selection tool further
comprises:
means for testing a speed for each of the plurality of
     proxy servers; and
means for determining a highest speed.

14. The information handling system as described in
claim 12 wherein the proxy selection tool further
comprises:
means for setting a minimum speed limit for a selected
     proxy server;
means for comparing a speed for the selected proxy
     server with the minimum speed limit; and
means for testing each of the plurality of servers in
     response to the speed for the selected proxy
     server falling below the minimum speed limit.

15. The information handling system as described in
claim 12 wherein the proxy selection tool further
comprises:
means for receiving a destination address; and
means for comparing the destination address to a
     plurality of network addresses, each of the
     network addresses corresponding with a proxy
     server identifier.

16. The information handling system as described in
claim 15 wherein the proxy selection tool further
comprises:

means for returning the proxy server identifier

corresponding to the network address that matches

the received destination address.

17. The information handling system as described in

claim 15 wherein the proxy selection tool further

comprises:

means for returning a default proxy server identifier

in response to the received destination address

not matching any of the network addresses.

18. The information handling system as described in

claim 15 wherein at least one of the network addresses

includes one or more wildcard characters, the wildcard

characters identifying more than one address

corresponding to the network address.

19. The information handling system as described in

claim 12 wherein the proxy selection tool further

comprises:

means for modifying a proxy configuration setting

using the selected proxy server identifier, the

proxy configuration setting identifying the proxy

server used by a client computer system.

20. The information handling system as described in

claim 12 wherein the proxy selection tool further

comprises:

means for determining a fastest proxy server from the

plurality of proxy servers;

means for setting a default proxy server address to

the address of the fastest proxy server;

means for receiving a destination address from a user;

10   means for locating the destination address in a proxy

            table, the proxy table including one or more

11   network addresses and a proxy server identifier

12   corresponding with each network address;

13   means for selecting the proxy server identifier

14   corresponding with the network address in

15   response to locating the destination address in

16   the proxy table; and

17   means for selecting the default proxy server address

18   in response to not locating the destination

19   address in the proxy table.

1 21. A computer program product for selecting a proxy

2   server, said computer program product comprising:

3   means for reading a plurality of proxy server

4   identifiers;

5   means for evaluating at least one of the proxy

6   servers; and

7   means for selecting the proxy server identifier

8   corresponding to one of the evaluated proxy

9   servers.

1 22. The computer program product as described in claim 21

2   wherein the means for evaluating further comprises:

3   means for testing a speed for each of the plurality of

4   proxy servers; and

5   means for determining a highest speed.

1 23. The computer program product as described in claim 21

2   wherein the means for evaluating further comprises:

3   means for setting a minimum speed limit for a selected

4   proxy server;

5　　means for comparing a speed for the selected proxy

6　　　　server with the minimum speed limit; and

7　　means for testing each of the plurality of servers in

8　　　　response to the speed for the selected proxy

9　　　　server falling below the minimum speed limit.

1　24.　The computer program product as described in claim 21

2　　wherein the means for evaluating further comprises:

3　　means for receiving a destination address; and

4　　means for comparing the destination address to a

5　　　　plurality of network addresses, each of the

6　　　　network addresses corresponding with a proxy

7　　　　server identifier.

1　25.　The computer program product as described in claim 24

2　　further comprising:

3　　means for returning the proxy server identifier

4　　　　corresponding to the network address that matches

5　　　　the received destination address.

1　26.　The computer program product as described in claim 24

2　　further comprising:

3　　means for returning a default proxy server identifier

4　　　　in response to the received destination address

5　　　　not matching any of the network addresses.

1　27.　The computer program product as described in claim 24

2　　wherein at least one of the network addresses includes

3　　one or more wildcard characters, the wildcard

4　　characters identifying more than one address

5　　corresponding to the network address.

1　28.　The computer program product as described in claim 21

2　　further comprising:

3   means for modifying a proxy configuration setting

4   using the selected proxy server identifier, the

5   proxy configuration setting identifying the proxy

6   server used by a client computer system.

1   29.   The computer program product as described in claim 21

2   further comprising:

3   means for determining a fastest proxy server from the

4   plurality of proxy servers;

5   means for setting a default proxy server address to

6   the address of the fastest proxy server;

7   means for receiving a destination address from a user;

8   means for locating the destination address in a proxy

9   table, the proxy table including one or more

10   network addresses and a proxy server identifier

11   corresponding with each network address;

12   means for selecting the proxy server identifier

13   corresponding with the network address in

14   response to locating the destination address in

15   the proxy table; and

16   means for selecting the default proxy server address

17   in response to not locating the destination

18   address in the proxy table.

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